

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, 10, 12-19 and 21-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Strickland et al. (US 5,867,806) in view of Howells et al. (US 4,556,884).

Claims 1, 8, 10, 17, 19 and 25 are amended to further clarify and distinguish the invention. More specifically, independent claims 1, 10 and 19 have been amended to include the feature of determining a specific and difficult-to-extract resistivity anisotropy profile of the formation. Dependent claims 8, 17 and 25 have also been amended to recite further novel and nonobvious features of the invention. Neither the '806 nor the '884 patent (alone or combined) teach or suggest anything about these claimed features of the invention.

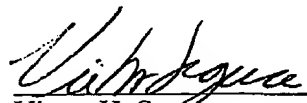
The prior art teaches how to interconnect tools together, use digital telemetry, and to use inversion techniques to extract information from logs. However, these references do not teach what measurements or combinations of measurements are sensitive to or contain information about the specific desired properties, nor how to set up the specific inversion method to extract that information.

The present invention combines sensors that are sensitive to desired resistivity anisotropy parameters and discloses how to extract these parameters, neither of which are discussed or even suggested in either of the referenced patents. As claimed, the invention entails, among other things, the determination of a resistivity anisotropy profile of the formation (See claims 1, 10 and 19). The '806 and '884 patents fail to teach or suggest these sensitivities. Expressly missing from these references is any disclosure pertaining to resistivity anisotropy.

Applicant submits that amended claims 1, 3-10, 12-19 and 21-26 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be advantageous in advancing the prosecution of this application, a call to the undersigned is encouraged at (281) 285-4562.

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Respectfully submitted,


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